



February 2001

Chartered 1984 as the 300th Grotto of the National Speleological Society

Volume 16 Number 2

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE PERMIAN BASIN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Next Meeting of the PBSS:

The next official meeting of the Permian Basin Speleological Society will be held **Tuesday, February 13**, around **7:00 PM**, in the back meeting room of Murray's Delicatessen. Murray's is located at 3211 West Wadley, Midland, Texas.

Our Agenda:

Meeting

2001 Grotto Dues are Due

More on the TSA Spring Convention

If you need more directions or information call our official contact person, Walter Feaster @ (915)694-1824 or (915)559-3297, or E-Mail: <wdfeast@home.com> or <wfeaster@caver.net>.

"The Hole News" is the monthly publication of the Permian Basin Speleological Society. Articles and cartoons maybe reproduced by cave oriented publications that exchange newsletters with PBSS, as long as proper credit is given to the author. Please observe copy righted © articles. Items for this newsletter can be sent to the Editor, "The Hole News", c/o Walter Feaster, 4307 Harvard Ave., Midland, TX. 79703. Regular membership dues are only \$10.00 and includes one voting right, associate membership is \$ 5.00 and does not include a newsletter. Dues should be sent to PBSS Secretary/ Treasurer, c/o Walter Feaster, (address above). If you're interested in caving or even if you think you might like to try it, then contact Kerry Lowery @ (915)394-4230 or <lowery4@rcrom.net>. Or if you are not from this area and some how through circumstances beyond you're control or ours found a copy of "The Hole News" then you should contact the National Speleological Society at 2813 Cave Avenue, Huntsville AL, 35810-4431, or <www.caves.org/defaultjs.htm>.

"PBSS Home Page"

<http://www.caver.net/pbss/pbss.htm>

Built and Maintained by *Bill Bentley*



Future Cave Trips, Events, and Projects:

*****February ? PBSS trip to Montgomery Gypsum Cave:** Contact Noel Pando at (915)523-9294 or <npando@andrews.esc18.net>.*****

February 11- TSA Winter Meeting: The TSA winter meeting is going to be held at 10:00 a.m. February 11, at Colorado Bend State Park. This is on the Sunday of a regular TSA-CBP Work weekend. All interested persons can attend. Also **TCMA** will have a meeting on Sunday.

*****May 19- TSA Spring Convention:** Will be held at Sonora Caverns and hosted by the PBSS. More info when available.

July 23-27-2001 NSS Convention: Mount Vernon, KY. For info visit www.nss2001.com or contact Bill Carr, PO Box 1406, Mount Vernon, KY 40456. Phone: (606)256-0205 or <chairman@nss2001.com>. Register online; registration fees fully refundable until May 1, 2001.

October ? Texas Cavers Reunion : Details later.

*****Denotes a PBSS Grotto Trip*****

Due to permit restrictions or other limitations Grotto members have priority.

On Going Projects:

CRF- -Carlsbad Caverns: Expeditions usually occur on holiday weekends. Contact Barbe Barker (972)594-1183 or <cavers@gte.net>. Or possibly CRF website -www.cave-research.org.

High Guads Restoration Project (HGRP): Upcoming events will take place the last weekend of each month. For more info contact Susan Herpin (505)785-2423 or <sherpin@caverns.com>.

PBSS Rock Hauling At Carlsbad Caverns: PBSS on going restoration in the Big Room of Carlsbad Caverns. Tentative dates for 2001 are (as you know this can change): **March 10, June 30, Sept. 15, and Dec. 8.** Contact Walter Feaster at 694-1824 or <wdfeast@home.com>.

PBSS Meeting Notice:

To all members who where involved in the Lech Calvert Removal Project last year, please try and make the next grotto meeting. We will have some news and things to discuss.

PBSS Remailer

Hi All,

I set up a announcement and discussion list for the Permian Basin Speleological Society. I highly recommend all use and subscribes to it. It could be used to announce Club Meetings, convention info... Caving trips and so on!

Rules are simple... There are no rules except we keep the discussions related or remotely related to caving and PBSS! Flames and personal attacks are discouraged and will NOT be permitted! I control the list! Abuse and you will be deleted! Please! Don't make me do this! This should be a invaluable tool in addition to the club web site and the Internet.

Thanks

Bill

The URL to subscribe is!

<http://www.caver.net/pbss/remailer.htm>

Also pass this around to all your PBSS caving friends, Oh Yeah its **FREE** too!

Grotto News, Events and Stuff:

I hate to keep bringing this up, but now the PBSS grotto dues for 2001, **are past due**. Below is a list of last years members who have not renewed. If I don't hear from you, this will be **your last newsletter**.

Alton,	Coffin,	Franks,
L. Gray,	S. Gray,	Hogan,
T. Kaler,	Kamon,	King, (Don & Mary),
Jones,	Laman,	Lowery,(Kerry & Sonceia),
Mikelski,	Moore family,	Van Moort,
Ross, (Don & Elizabeth),	Russell,	Sedbrook,
Wallace III,	Wolff,	

If your name appears above and you have paid, please let me know. Also if your e-mail has changed please inform me.

Walter Feaster
Secretary/Treasurer PBSS

Trip Report: Abyss Sinkhole

On Saturday Jan. 27, 2001 a group from the PBSS went to the Abyss Sinkhole Cave. Kerry Lowery, Mike Gray, and Dwaine Moore were the members present after 2-3 others decided that being sick was a good reason to back out of the trip. The day was foggy, cloudy, rainy, and cool.

We met in Big Lake at 11:00 am then proceeded to the cave. Once there Mike and Dwaine tied the rope and Kerry dropped the other end into the cave. After all were in the cave we proceeded to look around. There is a nice pool with water pouring out of the ceiling into it, lots of breakdown, and plenty of cracks and crevices to check out. At the end of one crack is a nice overhead formation going to flowstone to the floor and through a hole which goes to a small room (big enough for maybe 2 skinny people). The cave is not very large but there is enough things to see to make it well worth the trip and well worth going back to. The opening is a 2 1/2 - 3 foot opening that drops 90 feet to the top of a break down pile. Upon entering we saw cave crickets, frogs at the bottom of the drop, and several artifacts from past explorers (flash bulbs, vienna sausage can, several pieces of pipe, and old webbing).

Kerry Lowery
PBSS pres.
NSS# 41518

